Make a Book from markdown files

Andrei Ignat

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## Introduction of MakeBookCli

### Why ?

Every now and then I have wanted to transform my investigations , written as blog posts, into books

Also occured to me that I want to write a book. But each chapter was self sufficient. And transforming different chapters into a book required manual labor . That for this software application, that has as purpose to transform a chapter collection into a book ( i.e. a HTML document or a Word document or a )

### About

My name is Andrei Ignat .



This software is open source and you can download from <https://github.com/ignatandrei/makeBook>

### How the help manual it was created

Of course the help manual was created using this software. What is better than dogfooding ?

If you want to edit, please go to <https://github.com/ignatandrei/makeBook> and edit src/help files

You can download this help file as HTML , Word , PDF or EPUB

## Steps to use

### Installation

Download latest version of the software from github

<https://github.com/ignatandrei/makeBook/releases>

You will download an executable file - latest is <https://github.com/ignatandrei/makeBook/releases/download/v8.2024.717.2216/MakeBookCLI.exe>

Note for Windows Users : Unblock the software prior to execute it.

Now run

MakeBookCLI i --folder   
MakeBookCLI gmk --folder

The first command will init the structure.

The second one will start to generate output ( html, doc,epub) from the markdown files.

### Usage

#### Put title and author

Modify bookData.json file in the .bookSettings folder and change the author ( obviously , your name ) and title ( obviously , the title of the book )

#### Put the chapters in the book folder

Modify the documents on the book folder. The program will execute continuously and generate the html and doc documents . Those can be seen at the .output folder

### PDF

If you want the pdf , then you should install a PDF Engine . You could install miktext with

choco install pandoc  
choco install rsvg-convert python miktex

Modify in the .bookSettings/bookData.json

"valueNear": ".pandoc/pandoc.exe",  
"value": "%LocalAppData%\\Pandoc\\pandoc.exe"

Also modify in .bookSettings/bookData.json the "make an pdf with miktext" value

"enabled":true,  
"redirectOutput":false

Close the app ( and the console that you are using )and restart the application .

## Advanced - Organization

### Folders

There are 4 folders into the project: .output , .bookSettings, .pandoc , book

#### .output

This folder will contain the output of the application. The output can be HTML, DOCX, EPUB, PDF or any other kind pandoc will generate

#### .pandoc

Here will be the pandoc executable with all files needed to generate documents.

#### .bookSettings

Here will be the settings of the book. The most important file is bookData.json . This is a sample:

{  
 "book":{  
 "title":"The book title",  
 "author":"Your name"  
 },  
 "locations": [  
 {  
 "name": "pandoc",  
 "value": ".pandoc/pandoc.exe",  
 "valueIfChocoInstalled": "%LocalAppData%\\Pandoc\\pandoc.exe"  
 }  
  
 ],  
 "commands": [  
 {  
 "name": "make a html",  
 "value": "-d .settings/pandocHTML.yaml --resource-path book --metadata=title:\"{title}\" --metadata=author:\"{author}\" --title \"{title}\" -o .output/index.html",  
 "enabled":true  
 },   
 ]  
}

#### book

Here you will put the chapters of the book. Each chapter will be a markdown file. The order of the chapters will be the order of the files. However, introduction.md will be the first ( if exists )

I suggest to put each image for a chapter in a separate folder with the name of the chapter. This will help you to organize the images. ( It is not necesssary, but it is a good practice )